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16 PFIZER INC., PHARMACIA CORPORATION
17 and G.D. SEARLE LLC

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

15 BERTHA TOWNSEND and HERMAN) Case No. 2:06-CV-02780-FCD-KJM
16 TOWNSEND)
17 Plaintiffs,)
18 v.)
19 MERCK & COMPANY, INC., a)
corporation; McKESSON)
CORPORATION, a corporation;)
AMERISOURCEBERGEN DRUG)
CORPORATION, a corporation;)
20 PFIZER, INC.; PHARMACIA)
CORPORATION; G.D. SEARLE LLC,)
(FKA G.D. SEARLE & CO.); DOES 1)
to 100; PHARMACEUTICAL)
21 DEFENDANT DOES 101 to 200, and)
DISTRIBUTOR DEFENDANT DOES)
22 201 to 300, inclusive,)
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24 Defendants.)
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28)

)
DEFENDANTS PFIZER INC.,
PHARMACIA CORPORATION
AND G.D. SEARLE LLC'S
ANSWER TO COMPLAINT
JURY DEMAND ENDORSED
HEREIN

1 Defendants Pfizer Inc. ("Pfizer") (erroneously captioned as Pfizer, Inc.),
 2 Pharmacia Corporation, G.D. Searle LLC ("Searle") (erroneously captioned as
 3 G.D. Searle LLC, (fka G.D. Searle & Co.)) (collectively "Defendants") for
 4 themselves, submit this Answer to Plaintiffs' Complaint.

5 **1(a) Causes Of Action and Parties Alleged in the Master Complaint:**

6 1. Paragraph 1 of Plaintiffs' Complaint states Plaintiffs' own assertions
 7 and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is
 8 deemed required, Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 1,
 9 including subparts a through b, of Plaintiffs' Complaint.

10 2. Defendants have insufficient information or knowledge concerning
 11 the citizenship of Plaintiffs, and therefore deny the same.

12 3. Paragraph 3 of Plaintiffs' Complaint states Plaintiffs' own assertions
 13 and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is
 14 deemed required, Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of
 15 Plaintiffs' Complaint.

16 4. The allegations relating to Vioxx® are unrelated to Defendants and
 17 therefore no response is required. To the extent a response is deemed required,
 18 Defendants have insufficient information or knowledge and therefore deny the
 19 same. Defendants are without knowledge with regard to the Plaintiff's prescription
 20 and use of Celebrex® and/or Bextra®, and therefore deny the same. Defendants
 21 deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 4 of Plaintiffs' Complaint.

22 5. The allegations relating to Vioxx® are unrelated to Defendants and
 23 therefore no response is required. To the extent a response is deemed required,
 24 Defendants have insufficient information or knowledge and therefore deny the
 25 same. Defendants are without knowledge with regard to the Plaintiff's prescription
 26 and use of Celebrex® and/or Bextra®, and therefore deny the same. Defendants
 27 deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 5 of Plaintiffs' Complaint.

1 6. The allegations relating to Vioxx® are unrelated to Defendants and
2 therefore no response is required. To the extent a response is deemed required,
3 Defendants have insufficient information or knowledge and therefore deny the
4 same. Defendants state that, at times relevant to this lawsuit, Bextra® and
5 Celebrex® were safe and effective when used in accordance with its FDA-
6 approved prescribing information. Defendants state that the potential effects of
7 Bextra® and Celebrex® were adequately described in their FDA-approved
8 prescribing information, which were at all times adequate and comported with
9 applicable standards of care and law. Defendants are without knowledge with
10 regard to Plaintiff's allegations relating to any person's "reliance" referred to in
11 paragraph 6. Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 6,
12 including subparts a through e, of Plaintiffs' Complaint.

13 7. Defendants deny that Plaintiffs are entitled to the damages and relief
14 requested in paragraph 7 of Plaintiff's Complaint.

16 (b) Causes Of Action and/or Parties Not Alleged in the Master Complaint:

17 ADDITIONAL DEFENDANTS

18 1. Pfizer admits that it is a Delaware corporation with its principal place
19 of business in New York, New York. Further answering, Defendants admit that
20 Pfizer merged with Pharmacia in April 2003. Pfizer admits that, during certain
21 periods of time, it marketed and co-promoted Celebrex® and Bextra®. By way of
22 further answer, Defendants state that paragraph 1 contains legal conclusions to
23 which no answer is required. Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained
24 in paragraph 1 of Plaintiffs' Complaint.

25 2. Paragraph 2 of Plaintiffs' Complaint states Plaintiffs' own assertions
26 and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is
27 deemed required, Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 2 of
28 Plaintiffs' Complaint.

1 3. Pharmacia admits that it is a Delaware corporation with its principal
 2 place of business in New Jersey. Defendants admit that in 1933 an entity known as
 3 Monsanto Company ("1933 Monsanto") was incorporated under the laws of
 4 Delaware. Defendants further admit that on March 31, 2000, a subsidiary of the
 5 1933 Monsanto Company merged with Pharmacia & Upjohn, Inc. and the 1933
 6 Monsanto Company changed its name to Pharmacia Corporation. Pharmacia
 7 admits that, during certain periods of time, it marketed Celebrex® and Bextra®.
 8 By way of further answer, Defendants state that paragraph 3 contains legal
 9 conclusions to which no answer is required. Defendants deny the remaining
 10 allegations contained in paragraph 3 of Plaintiffs' Complaint.

11 4. Searle admits that it is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Pharmacia
 12 Corporation, which is in turn a wholly-owned subsidiary of Pfizer. Searle is a
 13 Delaware limited liability corporation with its principal place of business in
 14 Illinois. Searle admits that during certain periods of time it tested, co-promoted
 15 and developed Celebrex® and Bextra®. During certain periods of time,
 16 Celebrex® and Bextra® were manufactured and packaged for Searle. By way of
 17 further answer, Defendants state that paragraph 4 contains legal conclusions to
 18 which no answer is required. Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained
 19 in paragraph 4 of Plaintiffs' Complaint.

20 5. Defendants incorporate herein their responses to paragraphs 1, 3 and 4
 21 of Plaintiffs' Complaint. Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in
 22 paragraph 5 of Plaintiffs' Complaint.

23 6. Paragraph 6 of Plaintiffs' Complaint states Plaintiffs' own assertions
 24 and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is
 25 deemed required, Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 6 of
 26 Plaintiff's Complaint.

27 7. Paragraph 7 of Plaintiffs' Complaint states Plaintiffs' own assertions
 28 and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is

1 deemed required, Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 7 of
 2 Plaintiffs' Complaint.

3 8. Paragraph 8 of Plaintiffs' Complaint states Plaintiffs' own assertions
 4 and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is
 5 deemed required, Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 8 of
 6 Plaintiffs' Complaint.

7 9. Paragraph 9 of Plaintiffs' Complaint states Plaintiffs' own assertions
 8 and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is
 9 deemed required, Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 9 of
 10 Plaintiffs' Complaint.

11 10. Defendants state that, at times relevant to this lawsuit, Bextra® and
 12 Celebrex® were safe and effective when used in accordance with its FDA-
 13 approved prescribing information. Defendants state that the potential effects of
 14 Bextra® and Celebrex® were adequately described in their FDA-approved
 15 prescribing information, which were at all times adequate and comported with
 16 applicable standards of care and law. Defendants deny the remaining allegations
 17 contained in paragraph 10 of Plaintiffs' Complaint.

18 11. Paragraph 11 of Plaintiffs' Complaint states Plaintiffs' own assertions
 19 and legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is
 20 deemed required, Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 11 of
 21 Plaintiffs' Complaint.

22 GENERAL ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL CAUSES OF ACTION

23 12. Defendants state that the potential effects of Bextra® and Celebrex®
 24 were adequately described in their FDA-approved prescribing information, which
 25 were at all times adequate and comported with applicable standards of care and
 26 law. Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 12 of
 27 Plaintiffs' Complaint.

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1 13. Defendants admit that Bextra® and Celebrex® are selective Cox-2
 2 inhibitor non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (“NSAID”). Defendants admit that
 3 Celebrex® received FDA approval on December 31, 1998. Defendants further
 4 admit that Celebrex® is indicated for relief of the signs and symptoms of
 5 osteoarthritis and adult rheumatoid arthritis. Defendants state that the potential
 6 effects of Celebrex® were adequately described in its FDA-approved prescribing
 7 information, which was at all times adequate and comported with applicable
 8 standards of care and law. Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in
 9 paragraph 13 of Plaintiffs’ Complaint.

10 14. Defendants admit that Bextra® was approved by the FDA on
 11 November 16, 2001. Defendants admit, as indicated in the package insert
 12 approved by the FDA, that Bextra® is indicated for use in the relief of the signs
 13 and symptoms of osteoarthritis and adult rheumatoid arthritis, as well as for the
 14 treatment of primary dysmenorrhea. Defendants state that the potential effects of
 15 Bextra® were adequately described in its FDA-approved prescribing information,
 16 which was at all times adequate and comported with applicable standards of care
 17 and law. Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 14 of
 18 Plaintiffs’ Complaint.

19 15. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 15 of
 20 Plaintiffs’ Complaint.

21 16. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 16 of
 22 Plaintiffs’ Complaint.

23 17. Plaintiffs fail to provide the proper context for the allegations
 24 contained in paragraph 17 of Plaintiffs’ Complaint and therefore, Defendants are
 25 without knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations
 26 contained in paragraph 17 of Plaintiffs’ Complaint, and therefore deny the same.

27 18. Plaintiffs fail to provide the proper context for the allegations
 28 contained in paragraph 18 of Plaintiffs’ Complaint and therefore, Defendants are

1 without knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations
 2 contained in paragraph 18 of Plaintiffs' Complaint, and therefore deny the same.

3 19. Plaintiffs fail to provide the proper context for the allegations
 4 contained in paragraph 19 of Plaintiffs' Complaint and therefore, Defendants are
 5 without knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations
 6 contained in paragraph 19 of Plaintiffs' Complaint, and therefore deny the same.

7 20. Plaintiffs fail to provide the proper context for the allegations
 8 contained in paragraph 20 of Plaintiffs' Complaint and therefore, Defendants are
 9 without knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations
 10 contained in paragraph 20 of Plaintiffs' Complaint, and therefore deny the same.

11 21. Plaintiffs fail to provide the proper context for the allegations
 12 contained in paragraph 21 of Plaintiffs' Complaint and therefore, Defendants are
 13 without knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations
 14 contained in paragraph 21 of Plaintiffs' Complaint, and therefore deny the same.

15 22. Plaintiffs fail to provide the proper context for the allegations
 16 contained in paragraph 22 of Plaintiffs' Complaint. Defendants state that the
 17 potential effects of Bextra® were adequately described in its FDA-approved
 18 prescribing information, which was at all times adequate and comported with
 19 applicable standards of care and law. Defendants deny the remaining allegations
 20 contained in paragraph 22 of Plaintiffs' Complaint.

21 23. Defendants state that the potential effects of Bextra® and Celebrex®
 22 were adequately described in their FDA-approved prescribing information, which
 23 were at all times adequate and comported with applicable standards of care and
 24 law. Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 23 of
 25 Plaintiffs' Complaint.

26 24. Plaintiffs fail to provide the proper context for the allegations
 27 contained in paragraph 24 of Plaintiffs' Complaint. Defendants admit that the sale
 28 of Bextra® was voluntarily suspended in the U.S. market as of April 7, 2005, at the

1 request of the FDA. Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in
 2 paragraph 24 of Plaintiffs' Complaint.

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4 **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

5 **FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

6 1. Plaintiffs' Complaint fails to state facts sufficient to constitute a cause
 7 of action against these Defendants.

8

9 **SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

10 2. This Court lacks personal jurisdiction over these Defendants.

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12 **THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

13 3. Plaintiffs are barred from any recovery against these Defendants by
 14 the doctrines of waiver and estoppel.

15

16 **FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

17 4. The Complaint is barred by reason of the doctrine of laches and by the
 18 fundamental unfairness and prejudice of the excessive and lengthy delay from the
 19 date of the alleged use of Bextra® and Celebrex® to the filing of the Complaint.

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21 **FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

22 5. Defendants state on information and belief that the Complaint and
 23 each purported cause of action contained therein is barred by the applicable
 24 statutes of limitation.

25

26 **SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

27 6. Any and all injuries suffered by Plaintiffs, the fact of which is
 28 expressly denied by these Defendants, were the direct and proximate result of

1 sensitivities, medical conditions, reactions and/or idiosyncrasies peculiar to
 2 Plaintiff that were unknown, unknowable or not reasonably foreseeable to these
 3 Defendants, and not, as alleged, as a direct and proximate result of wrongful
 4 conduct on the part of these Defendants, the fact of which is expressly denied by
 5 these Defendants.

6

7 **SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

8 7. No act or omission of these Defendants was a substantial factor in
 9 bringing about the alleged injuries of Plaintiffs, nor was any such act or omission a
 10 contributing cause thereof, and any alleged acts or omissions of these Defendants
 11 were superseded by the acts or omissions of others, including Plaintiffs, which
 12 were the independent, intervening and proximate cause of any injury, damage, or
 13 loss sustained by Plaintiffs.

14

15 **EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

16 8. Defendants state on information and belief that any injuries, losses or
 17 damages suffered by Plaintiffs were proximately caused, in whole or in part, by the
 18 failure of Plaintiffs to exercise ordinary care and to follow the advice, information,
 19 warnings and/or instructions provided with the product and therefore, Plaintiffs'
 20 recovery, if any, must be diminished by the proportion of the negligence of
 21 Plaintiffs which proximately caused or contributed to the alleged injuries, losses or
 22 damages.

23

24 **NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

25 9. Defendants state on information and belief that any injuries, losses or
 26 damages suffered by the Plaintiffs were proximately caused, in whole or in part, by
 27 the negligence or other actionable conduct of persons or entities other than these
 28 Defendants.

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

10. Defendants state on information and belief that Plaintiffs failed to mitigate Plaintiffs' injuries, losses or damages, if any, suffered as a result of the incident and facts set forth in the Complaint.

ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

11. Plaintiffs' alleged injuries and damages, if any, were the result of the misuse of Bextra® and Celebrex®. Defendants further allege that if Plaintiff suffered injuries attributable to the use of Bextra® and Celebrex®, which allegations are expressly denied, the injuries, if any, were solely caused and attributable to the unreasonable, unforeseeable and improper use of said pharmaceutical product by Plaintiff and/or third parties.

TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

12. Plaintiffs have failed to join all indispensable parties; as a result of such failure to join, complete relief cannot be accorded to those already parties to the action and will result in prejudice to these Defendants in any possible future litigation.

THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

13. The manufacture, distribution and sale of Bextra® and Celebrex® referred to in Plaintiffs' Complaint were at all times in compliance with all federal regulations and statutes, and Plaintiffs' causes of action are preempted.

FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

14. To the extent that Plaintiffs assert claims based on these Defendants' alleged adherence or lack of adherence to and compliance with applicable federal

1 laws, regulations, and rules, such claims are preempted by federal law under the
 2 Supremacy Clause of the United States Constitution.

3

4 **FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

5 15. Plaintiffs are barred from recovering against Defendants because
 6 Plaintiffs' claims are preempted in accordance with the Supremacy Clause of the
 7 United States Constitution and by the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetics Act
 8 ("FDCA"), 21 U.S.C. § 301 *et. seq.*, and regulations promulgated thereunder, with
 9 the regulations promulgated by the FDA to implement the FDCA, with the
 10 purposes and objectives of the FDCA and the FDA's implementing regulations,
 11 and with the specific determinations by the FDA specifying the language that
 12 should be used in the labeling accompanying the subject pharmaceutical products.

13

14 **SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

15 16. Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part under the applicable
 16 state law because Bextra® and Celebrex® are subject to and received pre-market
 17 approval by the FDA under 52 Stat. 1040; 21 U.S.C. § 301.

18

19 **SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

20 17. Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part by the deference given
 21 to the primary jurisdiction of the FDA over Bextra® and Celebrex® under
 22 applicable federal laws, regulations, and rules.

23

24 **EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

25 18. Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part because there is no
 26 private right of action concerning matters regulated by the FDA under applicable
 27 federal laws, regulations, and rules.

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NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

2 19. The warning, labeling, advertising and sale of Bextra® and
3 Celebrex® complied at all times with the FDCA, 21 U.S.C. § 300 *et seq.* and the
4 Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. § 41 *et seq.* Consequently, Plaintiffs'
5 Complaint is preempted by these acts and compliance with these acts constitutes a
6 complete or partial defense to the allegations of Plaintiffs' Complaint against
7 Defendants, including any claim for punitive damages. Alternatively, Defendants
8 are entitled to a presumption that Bextra® and Celebrex® are not defective or
9 unreasonably dangerous and that their labeling was adequate.

TWENTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

12 20. If Bextra® and Celebrex® manufactured or sold by these Defendants
13 were involved in the incident alleged in the Complaint herein, which these
14 Defendants deny, then and in that event, Bextra® and Celebrex® were not
15 defective at the time that they left the control of these Defendants.

TWENTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

18 21. Applicable definitions of manufacturing defect and design defect, and
19 standards for determining whether there has been an actionable failure to warn, are
20 unconstitutional in that, among other things, they are void for vagueness and an
21 undue burden on interstate commerce, as well as an impermissible effort to
22 regulate in an area that previously has been preempted by the federal government.

TWENTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

25 22. Bextra® and Celebrex® conformed to the then current state of the art.
26 Further, the then current state of medical, scientific and industrial knowledge, art
27 and practice was such that these Defendants did not know, and could not

1 reasonably have known, that Bextra® and Celebrex® might pose a risk of harm in
 2 normal and foreseeable use.

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4 **TWENTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

5 23. Defendants allege that Bextra® and Celebrex® were fit and proper for
 6 their intended purpose and that the utility of Bextra® and Celebrex® outweigh any
 7 possible risk inherent in the use of Bextra® and Celebrex®.

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9 **TWENTY-FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

10 24. Defendants are informed and believe and thereon allege that, at or
 11 about the times, dates and places mentioned in the Complaint, if any risk was
 12 attendant upon Plaintiffs, which Defendants deny, Plaintiffs knew full well of such
 13 risk, were warned of such risk and voluntarily, and without compulsion or
 14 coercion, encountered and assumed such risk.

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16 **TWENTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

17 25. Bextra® and Celebrex® have at all relevant times been available only
 18 upon the prescription of a licensed physician, and Plaintiffs' prescribing physicians
 19 stood in the position of the learned intermediaries between Defendants and
 20 Plaintiffs. To the extent that Plaintiffs assert claims based on an alleged failure by
 21 Defendants to warn Plaintiffs directly of alleged dangers associated with Bextra®
 22 and Celebrex®, such claims are barred because Defendants have discharged their
 23 duty to warn in their warnings to the prescribing physicians, under the learned
 24 intermediary doctrine.

25

26 **TWENTY-SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

27 26. Plaintiffs' claims against Defendants are barred under § 6(c) of the
 28 Restatement of Torts (Third): Products Liability.

TWENTY-SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

27. Plaintiffs' strict liability claims are barred by the unavoidably
 3 dangerous product defense stated in Comment k to § 402A of the Restatement
 4 (Second) of Torts.

TWENTY-EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

28. Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part because Defendants
 8 provided adequate "direction or warnings" as to the use of Bextra® and Celebrex®
 9 within the meaning of Comment j to § 402A of the Restatement (Second) of Torts.

TWENTY-NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

29. Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part because Bextra® and
 13 Celebrex® "provide[d] net benefits for a class of patients" within the meaning of
 14 Comment f to § 6 of the Restatement (Third) of Torts: Products Liability.

THIRTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

30. Plaintiffs' claims are barred under § 4, et seq., of the Restatement
 (Third) of Torts: Products Liability.

THIRTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

31. Defendants allege that in the event that reliance was placed upon
 22 Defendants' nonconformance to an express representation, this action is barred
 23 since there was no reliance upon representations, if any, of these Defendants.

THIRTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

32. Plaintiffs' claims of fraud and concealment are barred by reason of
 27 Plaintiffs' failure to allege the circumstances constituting the alleged fraud and
 28 concealment with particularity.

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THIRTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

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Defendants are informed and believe and thereon allege that Plaintiffs failed to provide Defendants with timely notice of any alleged nonconformance

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THIRTY-FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

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34. To the extent that Plaintiffs seek punitive damages for the conduct which allegedly caused injuries asserted in the Complaint, punitive damages are

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barred or reduced by applicable law or statute or, in the alternative, are unconstitutional insofar as they violate the due process protections afforded by the

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United States Constitution, the excessive fines clause of the Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution, the Commerce Clause of the United States

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Constitution, the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the United States Constitution, and applicable state provisions. Any law, statute, or other authority purporting to

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permit the recovery of punitive damages in this case is unconstitutional, facially and as applied, to the extent that, without limitation, it: (1) lacks constitutionally

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sufficient standards to guide and restrain the jury's discretion in determining whether to award punitive damages and/or the amount, if any; (2) is void for

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vagueness in that it failed to provide adequate advance notice as to what conduct will result in punitive damages; (3) permits recovery of punitive-damages based

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on out-of state conduct, conduct that complied with applicable law, or conduct that was not directed, or did not proximately cause harm, to Plaintiffs; (4) permits

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recovery of punitive damages in an amount that is not both reasonable and proportionate to the amount of harm, if any, to Plaintiffs and to the amount of

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compensatory damages; if any; (5) permits jury consideration of net worth or other financial information relating to these Defendants; (6) lacks constitutionally

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sufficient standards to be applied by the trial court in post-verdict review of any

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**DEFENDANTS PFIZER INC., PHARMACIA CORPORATION AND G.D.
SEARLE LLC'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT**

1 punitive damages awards; (7) lacks constitutionally sufficient standards for
 2 appellate review of punitive damages awards; and (8) otherwise fails to satisfy
 3 Supreme Court precedent.

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5 **THIRTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

6 35. To the extent that Plaintiffs seek punitive damages for an alleged act
 7 or omission of these Defendants, no act or omission was oppressive, fraudulent, or
 8 malicious, and therefore, any award of punitive damages is barred.

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10 **THIRTY-SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

11 36. Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part because all acts or
 12 omissions by these Defendants (or their agents or representatives) were privileged
 13 or justified and any claim based thereon is barred.

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15 **THIRTY-SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

16 37. Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part because Plaintiffs lack
 17 standing to bring such claims.

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19 **THIRTY-EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

20 38. Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part because Defendants
 21 have been improperly joined in this action.

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23 **THIRTY-NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

24 39. Plaintiffs were contributorily or comparatively negligent, which
 25 contributory or comparative negligence constitutes a proximate cause of harm to
 26 Plaintiffs.

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FORTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

40. Plaintiffs' claims are barred because the Plaintiff would have taken Bextra® and Celebrex® even if Bextra® and Celebrex® labeling contained the information that Plaintiffs contend should have been provided.

FORTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

41. Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, because the advertisements, if any, and labeling with respect to Bextra® and Celebrex® were not false or misleading and, therefore, constitute protected commercial speech under the applicable provisions of the United States Constitution.

FORTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

42. To the extent that Plaintiffs' claims are based on a theory providing for liability without proof of causation, the claims violate Defendants' rights under the United States Constitution.

FORTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

43. To the extent Plaintiffs are seeking recovery for benefits entitled to be received or actually received from any other source for injuries alleged in the Complaint, such benefits are not recoverable in this action.

FORTY-FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

44. Defendants made no warranties of any kind, express or implied, or any representations of any nature whatsoever to Plaintiffs herein. Additionally, as a manufacturer and not a seller, Defendants are not subject to liability for implied warranties without privity, i.e., proof of direct and specific transactions between the Plaintiffs and Defendants. If any such warranties were made, whether express or implied, which Defendants specifically deny, then Plaintiffs failed to give timely

1 notice of any breach thereof.

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3 **FORTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

4 45. Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrine of
 5 accord and satisfaction.

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7 **FORTY-SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

8 46. Defendants are entitled to credit for any settlement of claims for
 9 alleged injuries and damages made by Plaintiffs with any other defendant or other
 10 person or entity.

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12 **FORTY-SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

13 47. Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or part because they have been
 14 filed in an improper venue.

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16 **FORTY-EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

17 48. To the extent Plaintiffs seek restitution or damages on behalf of
 18 individuals who used Bextra® and Celebrex® and suffered no damage or loss as a
 19 result thereof, restitution or damages are unavailable as nothing has been taken
 20 from those individuals, who allegedly could have an equitable basis for restitution
 21 or damages.

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23 **FORTY-NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

24 49. Plaintiffs' claims for restitution for products previously used are barred in
 25 whole or in part because the Plaintiffs received benefits from the subject pharmaceutical
 26 products and nothing was wrongfully taken from such Plaintiffs.

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FIFTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

2 50. Defendants intend to rely upon such other affirmative defenses as may
3 become available or apparent during the course of investigation, discovery, or trial,
4 and reserves the right to amend the Answer to assert such other defenses to which
5 it may be entitled.

PRAAYER

WHEREFORE, Defendants pray for judgment as follows:

9 1. That Plaintiffs take nothing from Defendants by reason of the
10 Complaint;

11 2. That the Complaint be dismissed;

12 3. That Defendants be awarded its costs for this lawsuit;

13 4. That the trier of fact determine what percentage of the combined fault
14 or other liability of all persons whose fault or other liability proximately caused
15 Plaintiffs' alleged injuries, losses or damages is attributable to each person;

16 5. That any judgment for damages against Defendants in favor of
17 Plaintiffs be no greater than an amount which equals its proportionate share, if any,
18 of the total fault or other liability which proximately caused Plaintiffs' injuries and
19 damages; and

20 6. That Defendants have such other and further relief as the Court deems
21 appropriate.

22 | DATED: December 21, 2006

TUCKER ELLIS & WEST LLP

By: /S/ Tae-Yoon Kim
Tae-Yoon Kim

Attorneys for Defendants
PFIZER INC., PHARMACIA
CORPORATION, and G.D.
SEARLE LLC

JURY DEMAND

Defendants Pfizer Inc., Pharmacia Corporation, and G.D. Searle LLC hereby demand a trial by jury of all the facts and issues in this case pursuant to 38(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

DATED: December 21, 2006

TUCKER ELLIS & WEST LLP

By: /S/ Tae-Yoon Kim
Tae-Yoon Kim

Attorneys for Defendants
PFIZER INC., PHARMACIA
CORPORATION, and G.D.
SEARLE LLC

PROOF OF SERVICE

2 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
3

4 I declare that I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of Los
5 Angeles, California or employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California.
6 I am over the age of eighteen (18) and not a party to the within action. My
7 business address is Tucker Ellis & West LLP, 1000 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800,
8 Los Angeles, California 90017-2475.

9 On December 21, 2006, I served the foregoing document **DEFENDANTS
PFIZER INC., PHARMACIA CORPORATION AND G.D. SEARLE LLC'S
ANSWER TO COMPLAINT** by placing a true and correct copy of each
10 document thereof, enclosed in a sealed envelope(s), addressed as follows:

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST

- 11 (X) I caused such envelope(s) with postage thereon fully prepaid to be placed in
12 the United States mail at Los Angeles, California.
- 13 () By Certified mail service return receipt requested, I caused such envelope(s)
14 with postage thereon fully prepaid to be placed in the United States mail at
15 Los Angeles, California.
- 16 () By Personal Service, I caused such envelope(s) to be delivered by hand to
17 the individuals so indicated at the address listed.
- 18 () By overnight courier, I caused the above-referenced document(s) to be
19 delivered to an overnight courier service for delivery to the above
20 address(es) or on the attached service list.
- 21 () By facsimile machine, I caused the above-referenced document(s) to be
22 transmitted to the person(s) named above or on the attached service list at
23 the facsimile numbers given thereat.
- 24 (X) I declare that I am employed in the office of the Bar of this Court at whose
25 direction the service was made.
- 26 (X) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California
27 that the above is true and correct. Executed on December 21, 2006 at
28 Los Angeles, California.

26 /S/ Maria Valdez
27 Maria Valdez
28

SERVICE LIST

1
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3 David R. Zarka, Esq.
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11 ***COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFFS***
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PROOF OF SERVICE